Country: Japan

Years: 1945-1950

Head of government: Douglas MacArthur

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify party affiliation. Briggs (1992:33) identifies MacArthur’s party affiliation as the Republican Party, writing that “General MacArthur was not the only member of the military forces on active duty who was under consideration for the 1944 Republican nomination”. DPI identifies the Republican Party as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Generally more conservative in outlook than the Democratic Party, the Republican Party traditionally drew its strength from the smaller cities and from suburban and rural areas.” The Political Handbook (2015) suggests that the occupying military forces under MacArthur were involved in economic policy-making, writing “Japan was occupied by Allied military forces under Gen. Douglas MacArthur. A period of far-reaching social, political, and economic reforms ensued, overseen by U.S. occupation authorities.” Buhite (2008) writes “Beginning two years before the end of the war, the State-War-Navy-Coordinating Committee (SWNCC), totally unknown to MacArthur, had begun developing policy towards Japan… MacArthur’s vaunted policies, despite public perception over the years to the contrary, reflected very closely those approved in Washington by the SWNCC, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and President Truman. The four-part document spelled out American policy, not MacArthur’s policy… Part four prescribed economic democracy in its various facets: rights for labor, breakup of the giant industrial and banking combines, and opportunities for small farmers and especially for women” and “He [MacArthur]… asserted that the United States under the Democrats-Roosevelt and Truman-had allowed government to grow to enormous proportions, financed by excessive taxes (a favorite Hunt/right-wing Republican theme), and had endorsed a form of socialism that would destroy the country from within. MacArthur, who had spent his entire life from birth in a socialist system, a welfare state in which public money had met all of his personal needs, both in the U.S. Army and in the Philippines, seemed oblivious to the irony of such contentions. Like so many military officers after him, he became a great advocate of rugged individualism, capitalism, and free enterprise and a leading proponent of the Republican domestic agenda.”

Years: 1951

Head of government: Matthew Bunker Ridgway

Ideology:

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify party affiliation.

Years: 1952 - 1953

Head of government: Shigeru Yoshida

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Party (*Jiyuto – LP*). Perspective monde (2020) identifies Yoshida’s ideology as center-rightist, writing, “Shigeru Yoshida | 1950 ( mars) | 1954 (10 décembre) | Parti liberal | Centre droit.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies Yoshida's party as Lib, and Lib's ideology as rightist, writing "15 Oct 1948 - 10 Dec 1954 Shigeru Yoshida (2nd time) (s.a.) Lib" and "Lib = Jiyūtō (Liberal Party, conservative, 18 Oct 1881-29 Oct 1884, 25 Aug 1890-20 Jun 1898 liberal, merged into FC; re-est.1945-1955, right-wing; 9 Nov 1945-Mar 1948 as Japan Liberal Party [Nihon Jiyūtō] conservative; Mar 1948-Mar 1950 as Democratic Liberal Party [Minshujiyutō Minjutō] right-wing, merged into LDP).”

Years: 1954 - 1955

Head of government: Ichiro Hatoyama

Ideology: right

Description: World Statesmen (2020) and Rulers (2020) identify Tanzan Ishibashi instead of Ichiro Hatoyama as head of government on December 31, 1956. HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Japan Democratic Party (*Nihon Minshuto – JD*). Perspective monde (2020) identifies Hatoyama’s ideology as rightist, writing “Ichiro Hatoyama | 1954 (10 décembre) | 1956 (23 décembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies Hatoyama's party as JD and LDP, and JD and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "10 Dec 1954 - 23 Dec 1956 Ichirō Hatoyama (b. 1883 - d. 1959) JD;1955 LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955) [...] JD = Nihon Minshutō (Japan Democratic Party, conservative, agrarian, anti-communist, 24 Nov 1954-15 Nov 1955, merged into LDP)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1972.

Year: 1956

Head of government: Tanzan Ishibashi

Ideology: rightist

Description: World Statesmen (2020) and Rulers (2020) identify Tanzan Ishibashi instead of Ichiro Hatoyama as head of government on December 31, 1956. HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party affiliation as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Ishibashi’s ideology as rightist, writing “Tanzan Ishibashi | 1956 (23 décembre) | 1957 (23 février) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Ishibashi's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "23 Dec 1956 - 24 Feb 1957 Tanzan Ishibashi (b. 1885 - d. 1973) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1972.

Years: 1957 - 1959

Head of government: Nobusuke Kishi

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…”Perspective monde (2020) identifies Kishi’s ideology as rightist, writing “Nobusuke Kishi | 1957 (23 février) | 1960 (19 juillet) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies f's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "24 Feb 1957 - 18 Jul 1960 Nobusuke Kishi (b. 1896 - d. 1987) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1972.

Years: 1960 - 1963

Head of government: Hayato Ikeda

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Ikeda’s ideology as rightist, writing “Hayato Ikeda | 1960 (19 juillet) | 1964 | (9 novembre)| […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Ikeda's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "18 Jul 1960 - 9 Nov 1964 Hayato Ikeda (b. 1899 - d. 1965) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1972.

Years: 1964 - 1971

Head of government: Eisaku Sato

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). ). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Sato’s ideology as rightist, writing “Eisaku Sato | 1964 (9 novembre) | 1972 (7 juillet)| Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Sato's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "9 Nov 1964 - 6 Jul 1972 Eisaku Satō (b. 1901 - d. 1975) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1972.

Years: 1972 - 1973

Head of government: Kakuei Tanaka

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Tanaka’s ideology as rightist, writing “Kakuei Tanaka | 1972 (7 juillet) | 1974 (9 décembre)| Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Tanaka's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "6 Jul 1972 - 9 Dec 1974 Kakuei Tanaka (b. 1918 - d. 1993) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1972.

Years: 1974 - 1975

Head of government: Takeo Miki

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Miki’s ideology as rightist, writing “Kakuei Tanaka | 1972 (7 juillet) | 1974 (9 décembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Miki's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "9 Dec 1974 - 24 Dec 1976 Takeo Miki (b. 1907 - d. 1988) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1972.

Years: 1976 - 1977

Head of government: Takeo Fukuda

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Fukuda’s ideology as rightist, writing “Takeo Fukuda | 1976 (24 décembre) | 1978 (7 décembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Fukuda's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "24 Dec 1976 - 7 Dec 1978 Takeo Fukuda (b. 1905 - d. 1995) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1976.

Years: 1978 - 1979

Head of government: Masayoshi Ohira

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Ohira’s ideology as rightist, writing “Masayoshi Ohira | 1978 (7 décembre) | 1980 (12 juin) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Ohira's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "7 Dec 1978 - 12 Jun 1980 Masayoshi Ōhira (b. 1910 - d. 1980) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1976 and 1979.

Years: 1980 - 1981

Head of government: Zenko Suzuki

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Suzuki’s ideology as rightist, writing “Zenko Suzuki | 1980 (17 juillet) | 1982 (27 novembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Suzuki's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "17 Jul 1980 - 26 Nov 1982 Zenkō Suzuki (b. 1911 - d. 2004) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1980.

Years: 1982 - 1986

Head of government: Yasuhiro Nakasone

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Nakasone’s ideology as rightist, writing “Yasuhiro Nakasone | 1982 (27 novembre) | 1987 (6 novembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. Lentz (1994) suggests Nakasone's ideology was rightist, writing "He entered politics in December of 1946 and was viewed by the occupation authorities as a right-wing nationalist." World Statesmen (2020) identifies Nakasone's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "26 Nov 1982 - 6 Nov 1987 Yasuhiro Nakasone (b. 1918 - d. 2019) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.221) in 1980 and as “Right” (2.129) in 1983 and 1986.

Years: 1987 - 1988

Head of government: Noboru Takeshita

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Takeshita’s ideology as rightist, writing “Noboru Takeshita | 1987 (6 novembre) | 1989 (3 juin) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Takeshita's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "6 Nov 1987 - 2 Jun 1989 Noboru Takeshita (b. 1924 - d. 2000) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (2.129) in 1986.

Years: 1989 - 1990

Head of government: Toshiki Kaifu

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Kaifu’s ideology as rightist, writing “Toshiki Kaifu | 1989 (9 août) | 1991 (5 novembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Kaifu's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "9 Aug 1989 - 6 Nov 1991 Toshiki Kaifu (b. 1931) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (2.129) in 1986 and as “Center-right” (1.473) in 1990.

Years: 1991 - 1992

Head of government: Kiichi Miyazawa

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Miyazawa’s ideology as rightist, writing “Kiichi Miyazawa | 1991 (5 novembre) | 1993 (9 août) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Miyazawa's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "6 Nov 1991 - 9 Aug 1993 Kiichi Miyazawa (b. 1919 - d. 2007) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.473) in 1990.

Years: 1993

Head of government: Morihiro Hosokawa

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify party affiliation. *Political Handbook of the World* (2015: 735-36) identifies affiliation as JNP: “The coalition named as its choice for prime minister a conservative populist from the JNP, Morihiro HOSOKAWA.” DPI identifies ideology of JNP as right.

The Political Handbook (2015) however, writes “The SDPJ’s action followed the formation […] of a new center-left parliamentary alliance called *Kaishin* (Innovation), which linked the JRP, the JNP, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) with two new ex-LDP splinter groups.” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Hosokawa’s ideology as leftist, writing “Morihiro Hosokawa | 1993 (9 août) | 1994 (28 avril) | Nouveau Parti du Japon | […] | Gauche moderee.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies Kaifu's party as JNP, and JNP's ideology as rightist, writing "9 Aug 1993 - 25 Apr 1994 Morihiro Hosokawa (b. 1938) JNP" and "JNP = Nihon Shintō (Japan New Party, neoliberal, center-right, split from LDP, 22 May 1992-9 Dec 1994, merged into Shinshintō [New Frontier Party])." Encyclopedia Britannica identifies Hosokawa’s ideology as rightist, writing “he formed the Japan New Party (JNP) as a conservative alternative to the LDP.” In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (0.487) in 1993 with “A high level of visible disagreement”.

Years: 1994 - 1995

Head of government: Tomiichi Murayama

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as left. CHISOLS identifies party as the Japanese Socialist Party (*Nihon Shakaito – JSP*). Perspective monde (2020) identifies Murayama’s ideology as leftist, writing “Tomiichi Murayama | 1994 (30 juin) | 1996 (11 janvier) | Parti social démocrate […] | Gauche moderee.” Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies JSP's ideology as leftist, writing "The party long appeared to be more radical than its principal rival [...] but a platform adopted in 1966 favored [...] a democratic transition from capitalism to socialism." Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies Murayama’s ideology as leftist, writing "the SDPJ entered a coalition government with the LDP and Shinto Sakigake in June, providing Japan’s first socialist prime minister, Tomiichi Murayama, since 1948." World Statesmen (2020) identifies Murayama's party as JSP, and JSP's ideology as leftist, writing "29 Jun 1994 - 11 Jan 1996 Tomiichi Murayama (b. 1924) JSP" and "JSP = Nihon Shakaitō (Japan Socialist Party, social democratic, center-left, pacifist, official English name Social Democratic Party of Japan; 1945-Jan 1996, renamed SDP)." The leftist Socialist International (2020) identifies Social Democratic Party as one of its members. In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Left” (-1.786) in 1993.

Note: Japan Socialist Party (JSP) was renamed to Social Democratic Party, SDP

Years: 1996 - 1997

Head of government: Ryutaro Hashimoto

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Hashimoto’s ideology as rightist, writing “Ryutaro Hashimoto | 1996 (11 janvier) | 1998 (30 juillet) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Hashimoto's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "11 Jan 1996 - 30 Jul 1998 Ryūtarō Hashimoto (b. 1937 - d. 2006) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.232) in 1996.

Years: 1998 - 1999

Head of government: Keizo Obuchi

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Obuchi’s ideology as rightist, writing “Keizo Obuchi | 1998 (30 juillet) | 2000 (5 avril) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Obuchi's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "30 Jul 1998 - 5 Apr 2000 Keizō Obuchi (b. 1937 - d. 2000) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.232) in 1996.

Years: 2000

Head of government: Yoshiro Mori

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Mori’s ideology as rightist, writing “Yoshiro Mori | 2000 (5 avril) | 2001 (26 avril)| Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Mori's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "5 Apr 2000 - 26 Apr 2001 Yoshirō Mori (b. 1937) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.469) in 2000.

Years: 2001 - 2005

Head of government: Junichiro Koizumi

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Koizumi’s ideology as rightist, writing “Junichiro Koizumi | 2001 (26 avril) | 2006 (26 septembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Koizumi's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "26 Apr 2001 - 26 Sep 2006 Junichirō Koizumi (b. 1942) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.469) in 2000, as “Right” (2.461) in 2003, and as “Right” (2.837) in 2005.

Years: 2006

Head of government: Shinzo Abe

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Abe’s ideology as rightist, writing “Shinzo Abe | 2006 (26 septembre) | 2007 | (26 septembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Abe's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "26 Sep 2006 - 26 Sep 2007 Shinzō Abe (1st time) (b. 1954) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (2.837) in 2005.

Years: 2007

Head of government: Yasuo Fukuda

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Fukuda’s ideology as rightist, writing “Yasuo Fukuda | 2007 (26 septembre) | 2008 (24 septembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Fukuda's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "26 Sep 2007 - 24 Sep 2008 Yasuo Fukuda (b. 1936) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (2.837) in 2005.

Years: 2008

Head of government: Taro Aso

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Aso’s ideology as rightist, writing “Taro Aso | 2008 (24 septembre) | 2009 (16 septembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Aso's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "24 Sep 2008 - 16 Sep 2009 Tarō Asō (b. 1940) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (2.837) in 2005.

Years: 2009

Head of government: Yukio Hatoyama

Ideology: centre

Description: HoG identifies ideology as other. CHISOLS does not identify party affiliation. *Political Handbook of the World* (2015: 737) identifies affiliation as DPJ: “In September 16 the DPJ's Yukio HATOYAMA, the finance minister, won confirmation as prime minister at the head of a government that included the SDP and the People's New Party (PNP) as junior partners.” Encyclopedia Britannica (2018) identifies DPJ’s ideology as centrist, writing that “the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), Japanese Nihon Minshutō, is a centrist Japanese political party that was founded in 1996 to challenge the long-dominant Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP)”. Perspective monde (2020) identifies Hatoyama’s ideology as centrist, writing “Yukio Hatoyama | 2009 (16 septembre) | 2010 (8 juin) | Parti démocratique du Japon | […] | Centre.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies Hatoyama's party as DPJ, and DPJ's ideology as leftist, writing "16 Sep 2009 - 8 Jun 2010 Yukio Hatoyama (b. 1947) DPJ" and "DPJ = Minshutō (Democratic Party of Japan, center-left, 27 Apr 1998 - 7 May 2018, merged into DPP)." The Historical Dictionary of Postwar Japan identifies DPJ’s ideology as center-leftist, writing “The DPJ, a liberal political party with moderate socialist leanings.” In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (-0.177) in 2009. Ortiz de Zárate (2010b) writes “The historic move that the 2009 elections brought to Japan launched Yukio Hatoyama, leader of the center-left Democratic Party and former member of the same conservative party, the Liberal Democratic Party… His difficult bet on consumption and social policies without raising taxes or issuing sovereign debt pointed to a new growth model, generating employment and less dependent on exports. After taking office, Hatoyama reneged on some of his fiscal promises under pressure from the public deficit and debt… To dislodge the Jiminto from power, virtually all opposition parties, old, new, leftist and conservative, joined forces in coalition. Thus, the Sakigake took part in a very heterogeneous government together with the Shakaito, the Shinseito, the Shinto, the Komeito (Clean Government Party, Buddhist) and two small social-democratic groupings. In 1995, Hatoyama received an offer from Murayama to merge their respective parties to create a large center-left party with a social democratic tendency. The engineer, who despite his discourse of renewal maintained a rather conservative ideological orientation, gave the socialist ruler the runaround… Placed under the dual leadership of Hatoyama and Kan, with the former taking charge of the party's internal affairs and the latter leading its parliamentary action, the Minshuto was born with the vocation of being a "third liberal pole."… Within a month of taking office, Hatoyama declared himself fully confident of his chances to change a series of habits rooted in Japan, ways of understanding politics and business that were no longer doing a good service to the people and the country. "It is obvious that a free market economy makes for a vigorous society. But it is also obvious that the idea of allowing markets to decide anything for the survival of the fittest, or the notion of economic rationalism at the expense of people's lives, is no longer valid," the prime minister said. Hatoyama, however, began to hit setbacks practically from day one, dramatically highlighting the huge gap between his election promises and his ability, environmentally and personally, to deliver on them.” Shim (2020) writes “Similarly, the left-leaning DPJ government slashed public works budgets by a third to damage the pipeline of LDP’s pork barrel politics between 2009 and 2012… the DPJ shifted in emphasis from a neoliberal party to a pro-welfare party to maximize their electoral prospect before the 2009 general election… In Japan, the ideological spectrum of particular government period is coded as “left” when it was under the coalition party majority government by the DPJ (2009.9–2011.7)”. Armingeon et al. (2020) identifies DPJ as centrist.

Years: 2010

Head of government: Naoto Kan

Ideology: left

Description: HoG identifies ideology as other. CHISOLS does not identify party affiliation. *Political Handbook of the World* (2015: 737) identifies affiliation as DPJ: “Hatoyama, who also urged party secretary general Ichiro Ozawa to resign, was succeeded by Naoto KAN, the deputy prime minister and one of the DPJ's founders, who received the assent of the Diet on June 4.” Encyclopedia Britannica (2018) identifies DPJ’s ideology as centrist, writing that “the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), Japanese Nihon Minshutō, is a centrist Japanese political party that was founded in 1996 to challenge the long-dominant Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP)”. Perspective monde (2020) identifies Kan’s ideology as centrist, writing “Naoto Kan | 2010 (8 juin) | 2011 (2 septembre) | Parti démocratique du Japon | […] | Centre.” Political Handbook of the World (2015) hints Kan’s ideology as rightist, writing "Kan reshuffled the cabinet again on January 14, 2011, appointing an economics minister who was described as being a fiscal hawk." World Statesmen (2020), however, identifies Kan's party as DPJ, and DPJ's ideology as leftist, writing "8 Jun 2010 - 2 Sep 2011 Naoto Kan (b. 1946) DPJ" and "DPJ = Minshutō (Democratic Party of Japan, center-left, 27 Apr 1998 - 7 May 2018, merged into DPP)." Encyclopedia Britannica identifies DPJ’s ideology as centrist, writing “Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), Japanese Nihon Minshutō, centrist Japanese political party that was founded in 1996.” The Historical Dictionary of Postwar Japan identifies DPJ’s ideology as center-leftist, writing “The DPJ, a liberal political party with moderate socialist leanings.” In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (-0.177) in 2009. Ortiz de Zárate (2010a) writes “On June 8, 2010, Japan inaugurated its sixth prime minister in four years with the inauguration of Naoto Kan, the new head of the Democratic Party (Minshuto, of the social-liberal center)… Kan, unlike most of his colleagues, comes from the leftist sectors that converged in the Minshuto, where he has been exercising an intermittent and uneven leadership since 1996… While practicing his legal-scientific specialty, starting in 1974 at the head of his own patent office, the young man became involved in grassroots social activism, embracing causes such as environmentalism and feminism, and entered left-wing political circles. It was a time when the two main groupings of this ideological tendency, the Socialist Party of Japan (Shakaito) and the Democratic Socialist Party (Minshato), were cornered in opposition by the hegemony of the ruling conservative Liberal Democratic Party (Jiminto)… For the next thirteen years, during which he was re-elected three consecutive times (in 1983, 1986 and 1990), Kan was a humble leftist MP… Kan appeared supporting a group of rebel Jiminto parliamentarians in the presentation of the New Pioneer Party (Shinto Sakigake), a centrist, reformist force with some environmentalist accents that proclaimed the urgent need for changes in the Japanese political model, discredited in the last six years by corruption scandals… After Hosokawa's unexpected resignation in April 1994, Kan and his colleagues refused to reissue the heterogeneous coalition under the leadership of the renovator Hata and in exchange agreed to make a pact with socialists and liberal democrats to bring the head of the former, Tomiichi Murayama, to the Executive… The founding convention of the new Minshuto, alternately classified by observers as a center and center-left party, elected Kan as president”. Armingeon et al. (2020) identifies DPJ as centrist.

Years: 2011

Head of government: Yoshihiko Noda

Ideology: centre

Description: HoG identifies ideology as other. CHISOLS does not identify party affiliation. *Political Handbook of the World* (2015: 737) identifies affiliation as DPJ: “Ultimately, on August 10 he announced his intention to resign after 15 months in office, and on August 29 Finance Minister Yoshihiko NODA was elected in DPJ runoff balloting as party leader, thus virtually securing the post of prime minister.” Encyclopedia Britannica (2018) identifies DPJ’s ideology as centrist, writing that “the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), Japanese Nihon Minshutō, is a centrist Japanese political party that was founded in 1996 to challenge the long-dominant Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP)”. Perspective monde (2020) identifies Noda’s ideology as centrist, writing “Yoshihiko Noda | 2011 (2 septembre) | 2012 (26 décembre) | Parti démocratique du Japon | […] | Centre.” Political Handbook of the World (2015) identifies Noda’s ideology as rightist, writing "A fiscal conservative, Noda ruled out any tax increase to pay for the $169 billion dollars reconstruction cost […]" World Statesmen (2020) identifies Noda's party as DPJ, and DPJ's ideology as leftist, writing "2 Sep 2011 - 26 Dec 2012 Yoshihiko Noda (b. 1957) DPJ" and "DPJ = Minshutō (Democratic Party of Japan, center-left, 27 Apr 1998 - 7 May 2018, merged into DPP)." Encyclopedia Britannica identifies DPJ’s ideology as centrist, writing “Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), Japanese Nihon Minshutō, centrist Japanese political party that was founded in 1996.” The Historical Dictionary of Postwar Japan identifies DPJ’s ideology as center-leftist, writing “The DPJ, a liberal political party with moderate socialist leanings.” In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center” (-0.177) in 2009. Ortiz de Zárate (2011) writes “Noda… Although fiscally conservative and opposed to further inflating the exorbitant government debt (225% and rising), the ruler accepts the need to persevere with stimulus measures and is resigned to raising direct taxes and issuing special bonds to finance the very costly reconstruction of the areas devastated by the earthquake, for which 16 trillion yen has already been budgeted… Noda was an actor, albeit a second-tier one, in the agitated trajectory of Japan's new reformist center, which underwent successive disputes and recompositions until it succeeded in unifying as the Democratic Party of Japan (Minshuto) in 1998.” Shim (2020) writes “Similarly, the left-leaning DPJ government slashed public works budgets by a third to damage the pipeline of LDP’s pork barrel politics between 2009 and 2012… the DPJ shifted in emphasis from a neoliberal party to a pro-welfare party to maximize their electoral prospect before the 2009 general election… In Japan, the ideological spectrum of particular government period is coded as “left” when it was under the coalition party majority government by the DPJ (2009.9–2011.7)”.

Years: 2012 - 2019

Head of government: Shinzo Abe

Ideology: right

Description: HoG identifies ideology as right. CHISOLS identifies party as the Liberal Democratic Party (*Jiyu-Minshuto – LDP*). DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” Perspective monde (2020) identifies Abe’s ideology as rightist, writing “Shinzo Abe | 2012 (26 décembre) | Parti libéral démocrate | […] | Droite moderee.” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Abe's party as LDP, and LDP's ideology as rightist, writing "26 Dec 2012 - Shinzō Abe (2nd time) (s.a.) LDP" and "LDP = Jiyū Minshutō (Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, nationalist, center-right, est.15 Nov 1955)." In V-Party (2020), 3 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Right” (1.964) in 2012 and 2014 and as “Right” (1.722) in 2017.

Years: 2020

Head of government: Yoshihide Suga

Ideology: right

Description: Varieties of Democracy identifies party affiliation as Liberal Democratic Party. DPI identifies LDP’s ideology as rightist. The Political Handbook (2015) elaborates, writing “Throughout most of the postwar era, Japan’s multiparty political structure featured the predominance of a single government party, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)…” In the Global Party Survey 2019, 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as 5.6.

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